# FREE FRANCE.

A Herald Correspondent in the Champagne Country After the Evacuation.

#### HIS CHATS WITH FRENCH NOTABLES.

A Difference of Opinion Concerning the Amiability of the German Treops.

BISMARCK A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW

King William a Kind Old Man. Who Never Could Say No.

#### INCIDENTS OF THE LATE WAR.

The Herald Correspondent in the Dangerous Vicinity of Champagne.

WHAT HE THINKS OF THE BEVERAGE.

The Caves of Widow Clicquot and Some Rints to Consumers of Her Juices.

#### THE DARK TEMPLE OF BACCHUS.

HOTEL DU LION D'OR, RHEIMS, Sept. 10, 1873. I have halted at the ancient city of Rheims on my way to the shrine of Our Lady of se, where there is to be a grand national pilgrimage of the French working classes in a few days. It is being organized by a certain Captain de Mun, President of the Catholic workmen's clubs (cercles Catholiques d'ouvriers) about here, a gentleman who holds high place in the esteem of the French clergy. Rheims is the best post of observation to waten these working pilgrims as they muster, coming in from all the towns and villages of Picardy, French Flanders, the Ardennes and the Champagne country.

While they are getting ready I purpose to ascertain the effect which has been produced by the

THE GERMAN ARMY OF OCCUPATION from a place which was for some time the headquarters of the Emperor William, and where no less than 500,000 of the invaders were quartered from arst to last. It is

this town of Rheims, and though it is the centre of the French wool trade, and exports 25,000,000 bottles of champagne yearly, it is at least two centuries behind Bordgaux, Lyons, Marseilles and the other principal seats of French industry and com-Many of its streets still remain as they were in the feudal times. Grotesque wooden houses with quaint roofs, and one rude window in the middle of them, jut out in an irregular manner, which shows that they were built at a period when there was no such person as

to mark the lines between pavement and roadway. The inhabitants are not given to jigging and fiddling like the population of modern French towns. They keep well within doors, go to bed early and begin coopering at daybreak. They no places of amusement but one large new theatre, which looks as if it never were used. The only public entertainment going on was given by a wandering ventriloquist, who seemed to have lost himself, and was exhibiting his talents to a solitary waiter at a coffee house, because the Recims people evidently would pay nothing to look at him. They find it cheaper to walk about their boulevarus of an evening or to take a stroll into the country than to waste their sous in sight-

NOT SO PAR WRONG perhaps in taking this view of their case, for the France-well watered, well wooded and all alive with light winds and gay flowers. It has a bird'smest look about it. Bright country houses stowed away in pleasant rich farms are hollows and embedded in clusters of roses. All Champagne has an unmistakable air of wealth and prosperity about it, though the soil, like that of most wine growing districts, is poor. There is Uttle pasture here, and cream such as that of Normandy and Brittany cannot be got for love or

THE GERMANS HAVE TAUGHT GARDENING TO THE PRENCH,
and so out of war and confusion, as it has ever

been in this world, come order jand beauty. The close character of the vegetation in Champagne is very remarkable. There is hardly an inch of ground which has not been made to bring forth The parks and gardens of some of the rich merchants are suffocated with plants, and they have scarcely left themselves breathing room about their windows.

I put up at the Lion d'Or, a rambling old inn of a type now almost extinct. It is built opposite that beautiful cathedral where the French kings were crowned, and which is one of the wonders of mediaval architecture. A lew doors off is the house of Jeanne d'Arc, the most popular heroine of

A fat, roundabout little landlord, four feet and a maif high, welcomes me in the solemn manner of a man who has much to do with the superior clergy and who takes

AN HONEST PRIDE IN A WELL-FILLED LARDER. Indeed, though Rheims is an inland town, there 4s no want of sea fish at the Lion d'Or. Fresh soies and monster lobsters, turbot, and salmon, the river king, are all here, and a rare choice for good breakfast lies spread upon the kitchen dresser to tempt a hungry traveller into ordering a

The hams of Rheims, its fruit, biscuits and pastry are almost as famous as the champagne wines; and here that delicate Bouzy, which will not bear removal by rail or ship, is alone to be drunk in perfection. I pass

AN AGREEABLE HALF HOUR n the breakfast room of the Golden Lion, sitting, by an open window, in full view of the cathedral, and listening to the deep-toned bells as they call good Catholics to their prayers, and ladies glide with swift footsteps through the doors of that splendid temple which the piety of former ages has ed to the worship of the hving God, and which stand ever open, week days as well as saints' days and Sundays. Priests, too, come out in twos and

threes from the archiepiscopai palace hard by, and then the bell stops, leaving a warning silence in the air which seems to mean-TIME WAS, TIME IS, TIME IS PAST. Prayers have begun; they will soon be over, and the dial's hand is moving fast. I never heard such peautiful chanting anywhere as in the Cathedral at

and find him handsomely lodged in a large, cool, shady house, near the Archbishop's palace. One can see that the prejecture is govern. ment property at a glance, without even looking up at the tri-colored flag which is poked out on a staff from the first floor and hangs down rather disconsolately. The large court yard, the passages and staircases are kept nto which I am shown, is a lofty apartment exce

Jently furnished. It has none of that bare hypo-eritical aspect of English official quarters, where JOBERT GOES ON UPON A DEAL TABLE with whitewashed walls around it. The Sub-Profect's room is comfortable, its decorations are

The Substitute with the world—arough and rude world at the best, which will host siller angion with any contact with the world—arough and rude world at the best, which will host siller angion with any contact with the world—arough and rude world at the best, which will host siller any contact and the contact and the

went to the Mayor, who was out too, so that it was nearly eight o'clock in the evening before I rung the beil at the gates of M. Vernet, at No. 18 in the Rue du Mare.

It is astonishing how little those people know of France and Frenchmen whose experience is confined to Paris. The best national type of a Frenchman is hardly ever to be found there. I was shown into M. Vernet's by a grave butler dressed in black, with no Paristan impertmence about him. He appeared to have been grown on the premises, and to be a part of them. The concierge also who kept the gate was a reverend and discreet personage. His very wife was comely and civil, while your concierge in Paris is commonly a dreadful person, who sits cross-legged, stitching in a dark hole, while his wife screams at her lodgers upon the staircase.

M. VERNET IS THE WHOW CLICQUOT; that is to say, he represents this excellent lady, now long deceased, and is one of the first wine merchants in the world. His wealth is counted by millions, and he is the first citizen of Rheims. The library into which I was shown by the grave butler was furnished with great magnificence, and all M. Vernet's surroundings were those of a merchant prince. A grand mantelpiece of black marble supported objects of art of inestimable value; the walls were covered with masterpieces of painting. I had not waited a minute before the master of this lordly home came in to speak to me. Punctuality is the politeness of kings, and M. Vernet, who is a king in his way, had a just appreciation of the value of time.

The famous widow's representative is a tall, handsome old man, of a singular distinction in manners and appearance. He sainted me with a bow such as was made in the presence chambers of the Bourbon kings. He looked very grand and upright—a born leader of men, though only a wine merchant, when one came to chink of it, which one did not for some time. He was dressed in the fashion of English statesmen before the age of music halls. He wore a black frock coat, made by Mr. Poole; a plain black

with those
CURIOUS DESIGNS IN WHISKERS
which delight the modern French Deputy and his

M. Vernet sat down beside me, and met my M. Vernet sat down beside me, and met my questions without reserve or hesitation. I feit immediately that I was dealing with a man of great intellect and discretion—a man who had a long life or honor and unblemished integrity behind him, and who would not have told a lie for a kingdom. His voice was very soft and low, as that of one who is accustomed to talk in council. His looks were calm, his mind collected, his speech lucid and straightforward. There was no restless vanity, no showing off, no hippancy about him. A person so unlike the common idea of an irrepressible French politician can hardly be imagined.

of an irrepressible French politician can hardly be imagined.

"No," said M. Vernet, after a thoughtful pause before he answered me—"No, I cannot honestly at my time of life say anything to the disadvantage of the Germans. It is right and fair to make allowances for them. It quite is true that they shot the Abbé Mauroy, Cure of Cuchery, near here; but he brought his death upon himself. The Archbishop himself toid me that the Abbé Mauroy was a very troublesome clergyman. He was a hot-headed man dires exalled. He courted martyrdom, He concealed arms in his house, and he was betrayed by some worthless fellows to the Prussians. When brought before their military authorities he was very

LAXDAGONE. The Sub-Prefect of a gentleman of edition and bulley, the share of the strategy of

France.

"I had also many interviews with the King, and always found him kind and reasonable. He never refused any of the requests I made him. On one occasion a pistol shot had been fired from a house here, and the house was ordered to be razed to the ground. I pleaded with the King to reverse this sentence, and it was reversed. Also, when the vintage approached great lear was felt that the German froops would damage the vines and eat up the grapes. I told the king that if they did so they would infliet a terrible less on the vinegrowers and infallibly be attacked with dysentery. Again the king listened to me, and not a German solder entered the vineyards of Champagne. It is quite true that the price of wine is raised, though I have not raised the price of mine; but the increase in price has not been caused by the mischief done to us by the German invaders. What they drank or bought is not an appreciable quantity, Prices have risen because vintages have been scanty. The Germans have left us debts behind them. The Prussians were most disliked. They were arrogant and offensive. The wirtemburgers were unobtrusive and good natured. All the German thous were kept under ADMIRABLE DISCIPLINE, and formed a great contrast to ours. I am bound to confess, upon my honor and conscience, that I do not think they behaved ill, and that their conduct, upon the whole, gave the most remarkable instance of discipline and self-control ever recorded in military annas."

The gracious and kindly gentleman rose at last, France. "I had also many interviews with the King, and

in military annais.''
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In military annais."

The gracious and kindly gentleman rose at last, and those were his larewell words. It is well, it is only just towards the Germans that they should be recorded. I looked at the red ribbon of the French knighthood upon M. Vernet's breast as I took leave of bim, and I thought that it had seldom been worn more worthily.

As I was at dinner an envelope was put into my hand. It contained a card, and on this card was written a polite intimation from the polite clerks of M. Dauphinot that this gentleman would not be at Rheims on the following day—"Our M. Dauphinot," declared the polite card, "being about to make a short absence," and therefore if I desired to see him, and could not wait, I had better be up by times the next morning and go out to his country house at Cormentreull.

Accordingly I got up scop affer daybreak and drove out to M. Dauphinot's country nouse, which appeared as well known to the cabman as his own nome. He smiled when I told him to drive there, and seemed to have a respectful intimacy with the place and its tenants.

It was an unpretending sort of house, in a lane about a league from Rheims, and had a large white gate, which opened into a clean, well kept court yard. Again I was reminded of the difference between the healthy heart of France and the artificial life of Paris. A practical bonne, or servant of all work, of a species long since extinct in the capital, answered my ring, and smiled good humoredly, in a broad, sympathetic way, when I asked for M. Dauphinot. She was perfectly civil, as mis civy clerks had been, and she seemed quite proud of her master, as in ring, and smiled good humoredly, in a broad, sympathetic way, when I asked for M. Dauphinot. She was perfectly civil, as his city clerks had been, and she seemed quite proud of her master, as though she had a part proprietorship in that eminent citizen. It is all very well for cynics to sneer at human life and human opinions. They are, indeed, lauity and miserable enough, but, somehow, it happens that no man can steal a good reputation. Those who know us soon contrive to take a just estimate of our character. No one could pass the gate of M. Dauphinot without feeling that he was in a good man's house; in the habitation of one who deservedly enjoyed the world's esteem. There was no pomp or parade about the house. It was merely a house made to live in, but it had a delicious air of comiert, cleanliness and care about it. I was shown into a small room with a pisno in it, and upon the table was the Recue des Deux Mondes, which has been the best periodical in France for nearly two generations. The room was delightfully cool and fresh. Through its open windows came the sound of a cock's shrill ciarion and the pertumed breath of many flowers, with the measured ring of a hammer upon an anvi, which betokened the presence of strong armed labor in the neighborhood.

Presently M. Dauphinot came in. He was a hearty, cheeriul man of about fifty, with gray whiskers and brown hair, and a face made raddy by good living and exposure to the air. He was smoking

A REMARKABLY GOOD CIGAR, which is a difficult thing to get in France. He was

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whiskers and brown hair, and a face made raddy by good living and exposure to the air. He was smoking

A REMARKABLY GOOD CIGAR,
which is a difficult thing to get in France. He was dressed like a well-to-do farmer, and around his neck was loosely tied an indian silk handkerchief. He took his place without ceremony upon the chintz covered sofa, and, having seated himself at ease, motioned me to a place beside him. A free and easy man this M. Dauphinot,

THE FAVORITE MAYOR OF RHEIMS
and ex-Deputy to the National Assembly—a man who was accustomed to see strangers and to deal with them in a plain, satisfactory manner.

"Ah." said M. Dauphinot, smiling and throwing himself back on his sofa, as he puffed musingly at his cigar, "it is a long story. Where shall I beginy Pump me and I will bring forth the stream of talk you want. Yes, I was Mayor of Rheims during the war and had a hard time of it. I could lay down no fixed rule for dealing with the German authorities. Istudied their individual characters, and when I had taken the measure of the men I had to deal with, sometimes I made a stand and brought questions to a wrangle. Bismarck lodged with me. He was a bon homme au fond; not at all a bad sort of fellow, lond of rough practical jokes and a good dinner; a giant of a man, morally and physically, who would stand no nonsense. I often saw the King of Prussia. He was a benevoient king, a worthy old man, who meant well. I had no several occasions to intercede with him, and I never did so unsuccessfully. None of the magnates of the German army played any queer tricks with indies or property. Perhaps they made a few conquests in the feminine world, but the ladles they subdued were not in society. They raised the prices of provisions. They were very nungry people, and physicality who well standed they have the dealy for what they are and drank. They must have left a deal of money in Rueims, and the town is unquestionably richer than it was.

"They were cruel, and did high handed things; but they were cruel from calculation

a very bad case, indeed, that. M. Tarelle was a notary, and a man of some consideration. He had or had not done something to displease our conquerors, and they condemned him to be shot. He was sternly ordered to take leave of his wife and family, placed before a file of soldiers with loaded rifles, and then, at the last moment, was told that he should be shot another time. Then he was na-

200 soldiers on me, and to make me a public example for the benefit of

BACKSLIDING AND REFRACTORY MAYORS.

"I answered M. Krensky, who was a senable and kind-hearted man, that unless this insolent protocol was cancelled I should at once give in my resignation; that if 200 soldiers were quartered at my house I should walk out of it; and that my house, which was filled with many valuable things, would merely be the first which would be probably plundered at Rheims. But I warned the German authorities that there were no less than 35,000 working men at Rheims who were very queer customers, and I could not answer for their quiet behavior after I had laid down my authority. They prevaricated and hesitated, however, being apparently determined that I should swallow their impertinence, and I was equally resolved to resign my functions If they did not withdraw their protocol. At length M. Krensky good humoredly settled the business by tearing it up before me upon his own responsibility.

"They were constantly doing insulting things, "They were constantly doing insulting things, and humiliated people in a clumsy way, apparantly without intending it. The military authorities sent for me abruptly one day and treated me like a fackey. I tried to pacify them, and was, indeed, very humble, thinking that I was dealing with gentlemen and soldiers who were merely angry and out of humor. But they actually published a report of all that had occurred in their official newspaper, and caused me to shed tears of shame and mortification. Then they apologized in a stolid, blundering way, saying that they had good reports of me and that they meant no harm. They were naturally rude, heavy and inconsiderate. Sometimes I was

CALLED UP AT MIDNIGHT TO REQUISITION A BOTTLE OF OIL FOR A SALAD.

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"The Prussians especially were so amazingly arrogant and ampleasant that I have sometimes wondered how long Prussia will be able to resist the effects of the universal dislike she has aroused. I noticed that none of the other Germans appeared on good terms with the Prussians. They were enchanted with themselves—every one else simply detected them.

Over and over again I tried to resign my office of Mayor. ... 'Very well,' said the German authorities at last,

mayor.

"Very well,' said the German authorities at last, if you do so we will catch the first ragamudin. We find in the street, make a mayor of him, and send him about with a file of soldiers to do what we want done,' Then I stayed on. I never knew but one person who could deal with a Prussian, and he was a citizen of the United States of America, whom I recently met at Dresden. His way of dealing with a Prussian was very simple and effective. The Prussian had boxed his ears, and the American had him he should never box the cars of anybody else. So he challenged him to a little private game with revolvers. When the Prussian came on the ground he found the American gentieman eating cherries. He nodded carelessly to his antagonist and told him to shoot away, saying that he would shoot afterwards. The Prussian, not being an expert shot with a revolver, missed his man, and then the American slouched camby up to him and broke both his arms. This is not merely a good story it.

American slouched caimly up to him and broke both his arms. This is not merely a good story, it is a fact within my own knowledge.

"Iam not aware that the Germans left any decite behind them, out they were intensely rade and disagreeable. A Prussian colonel lodged for forty days at my house, and never once spoke to me or bowed to me; but he took a fancy to a brace of valuable pointer dogs I had, and they disappeared with him. I do not say that he stole them; perinaps they followed him of their own accord; perhaps they followed him of their own accord; perhaps they followed him of their own accord; perhaps they conside a successful the successful them. I do not say that he stole them; perhaps they conside a successful them. I do not successful the successful them to the successful them. The Germans and hearty about him. The Germans did not break into the champagne caves, and I do not believe that the commerce of Rheima suffered at all from them. The Germans imported little or nothing; but they exported good deal of clothes, who had come to pay me a visit in full dress and with a white handkerohief on, after the custom of his country. M. Diancourt, its PRISEMT MAYOR OF RHEIMS, who had come to pay me a visit in full dress and with a white handkerohief on, after the custom of his country. M. Diancourt is an amiable looking man, of about forty years old, a precise, scruptions, upright man. Of smooth, conciliatory ways, metals and the successful the Prussians especially so. I cannot say they were nonest. Our arms were taken away from the diance of the successful so. I cannot say they were nonest. Our arms were taken away from the diance and offensive. They were fond of striking people with the sharp edges of their swords in a dispute. They never used the fat ends, and persons were often macked about quite unspectedly. The comment of the contract of the crown Prince of Prussia the best; that is to say, they more offense and bandsome revolvers. Most of these expensive weapons disappeared. They were nearly all dirty an

benevoient, elderly gentleman in spectaclex. Both were doing nothing in an easy, communication way; and I thought, as I watched them doing it, that the service of that grand old M. Vernot was not a hard one.

The chief clerk accompanies me to the chief of winow Category's wine celllars,
a burly gight in shirt sleeves, with a blue spron on, coming up to his sienders. He also is a man of prosperous and contented aspect, as though he rejoiced in M. Vernet and his service.

We enter first a low, gloomy cave, with a strong smell of vinegar about it, and pass on through cave after cave, dimly lighted from above, and so into a long room in total darkness, where there is a strange, rumbling noise going on. Here we are provided with candles placed in heavy iron candlesticks having hooks to hang upon the finger; and by their aid discover that the rumbling noise is produced by a man rolling champagne bottles with a dexterous twist of the wrist to make the wine deposit its crust on the corks, in order that it may be taken out and the liquor cleared before it is sent to market. Then we go into a long vault, filled with empty casks, all ready to receive the produce of this year's vintage.

On groping our way through total darkness,

we go into a long vault, filled with empty casks, all ready to receive the produce of this year's vintage.

On groping our way through total darkness, amidst tubs (excellent strong tubs they seem, as the candle-light flashes upon them) and the allipervading smeil of vinegar, grown mouldy, we go down a long flight of steps into another cave. It is cold and damp. The walls are covered with a glutinous slime, so acrid and pungent that the stain of it cannot be got out of cloth or linen any more than the stain of drunkenness can be got out of character. It is a glittering slime, of a beautiful brown color, not unlike a thin coating of treacle. Bottles in hundreds and thousands shine upon cither side of us, like living things, and men with candles flit about in the darkness. M. Vernet has several million bottles of champagne in stock, each bottle representing a five franc piece. The ground sounds hollow beneath our feet. There are other caves deeper than this with bottles, bottles, casks and bottles, and the same strong smelt of vinegar everywhere.

We stip and situmble through the thick grease of the wine fat which covers the ground of the lower caves; and one, the small old cave in which the Widow Chequot kept her wines, gives a good idea of a tyrant's dungeon in a melo-drama. On we go again, through lanes and avenues of casks and bottles, through roads and streets of them, with that thick slime, smelling like gine and vinegar, clinging to our feet. I wouder, as I look, how much wit and thought, how much joy and how much mischnei may be held in one bottle of champagne.

There is no meaning in magnums. The wine is not better for being put into a larger bottle, and the quality of that contained in pints is quite equal to that held in quarts.

The size of champagne bottles is uncertain; it

to that held in quarts.

The size of champagne bottles is uncertain; it varies considerably. There is no special immufacture of them, and no law or custom regulating their contents. They usually contain about three-fourths of a litra.

their contents. They usually contain about threefourths of a litre.

Each bottle should be separated by a small piece
of wood when champagne is kept in stock, and it
should be laid down horizontally, or the cork dries
and the gas escapes.

The corks used for Chequot champagne are
especially good, however, and fully suffice to retain the essence and perfume of the wine. The
metallic covering or wax put over them afterwards
is merely used for ornament. A strong iron wire
is the only thing necessary to keep the cork in
place.

place.

M. Vernet only employs about 200 workmen in doing the immense trade of Mme. Clicquot. But ne sells very little wine in France and none at all to private persons. The firm has no accredited agent even in Paris, none in London or St. Petersburg, but there is one in New York.

York.
It is curious to see how clumsily and with what an apparent amount of needless labor champagne is corked. The thing is done in the old way by means of an irou vice and a wooden mailet.

The last thing done to campagne is to take out the dregs of it, which collect at the neck of the bottle, in the shape and size of a large walnut. Then the flavoring sirup is added. It seems to be all done by the rule of thumb. A man took a ladie and a funnel and he put in as much as he liked to every bottle, just before it was corked up for market.

Then the flavoring sirup is added. It seems to be all done by the rule of thumb. A man took a ladie and a funnel and he put in as much as he liked to every bottle, just before it was corked up for market.

Champagne will keep for thirt, years or more, unless you drink it; but it is more the better for keeping. It may be drunk in perfection at three years old, its dayor depends upon the vintage, not upon time.

A new bottle of champagne looks like a spider's web floating about in water. It is terrible stuff to keep, and about fifteen per cent of the wine kept in M. Vernet's stock breaks yearly. The bursting of champagne bottles arises from some flaw in them. Now Behind Every Dipprounty Lurks an investing of champagne bottles arises from some flaw in them. Now Behind Every Dipprounty Lurks an investing of champagne bottles arises from some flaw in them. Now Behind Every Dipprounty Lurks an investing of champagne bottles arises from some flaw in them. Now Behind Every Dipprounty Lurks an investing of champagne bottles of us with reports londer that will not burst will also make a large fortune. As we walked through M. Vernet's cellars bottles were barsting on all sides of us with reports londer than those of pistols, and almost as dangerous. When a champagne bottle bursts in a workman's hand—as it very often does—it frequently deprives him of his everight. It is a hazardous thing to shake a champagne bottle bursts in a workman's hand—as it very often does—it frequently deprives him of his everight. It is a hazardous thing to shake a champagne bottle, or even to louch it, and PRUPENT PEOPLE HAVE THEIR CORES DRAWN BY THE WAITER.

Chequot sells no magnums of champagne, only pint and quart bottles; but there is a rose-colored champagne of this brand, quilt gla good as the white, much pretief and very life known in the market. It is merely stalated with old Bouzy wine in the proborlion of one part to twently. There is no still champagne of the Clicquot brand.

When the wine of a particular vintage proves unusually good

## THE WAR OF '66.

A Scrap from History-The Relations of Austria and Germany. The correspondent of the Eastern Budget, writing

A serap from History—The Relations of Astria and Germany.

The correspondent of the Eastern Budget, writing from Vienna, says:—

The statements in General La Marmora's book about the policy of Prussia in 1866 have produced tremendous excitement among the Austrian public. One learn as a wakened universal indignation. It is that addressed on the 12th of June, 1805, by Queen Elizabeth as a wakened universal indignation. It is that addressed on the 12th of June, 1805, by Queen Elizabeth states that King William has given her file word that sactal treaty between Italy and Prussia actual treaty between Italy and Prussia would not be bound to follow her. It is states that King William has given her file word that actual treaty between Italy and Prussia would not be bound to follow her. It is a prussia would not be bound to follow her. It is a prussia would not be bound to follow her. It is a prussia would not be bound to follow her. It is a prussia would not be bound to follow her. It is a prussia that he result of the letter was that Austria Prussia would not generally, it has not made any impression in diplomatic circles, and it will most certainly in no way influence the present friendly relations between Austria and Germany. General La Marmora is, no doubt, a sincere patriot, but, being also a zealous Catholic, he probably wishes to prevent the journey of King Victor Emanuet to Berlin and the establishment of the relations between Italy and Germany on a more intimate footing. It is evident that he fears, on the one hand, that Italy may become more dependent on Prussia than ever, and, on the other, that the war which has been declared by Prince Bismarck against the Roman catholic Courch migni induce the Italian government to proceed with more energy than it has hitherto done against the Pope and the Church in Hay. His endeavors have completely failed so far as Irussia is concerned, for it is now quite decided that the King will go to Berlin, and during his stay at Vienna he will have an opportunity of convening his

#### SANDWICH ISLANDS.

The Sugar Planters' Policy of Territorial Cession to the United States.

Nativist Opposition-What Would America Gain 1-Sugar Trade and San Francisco Commercial Interests-Customs Revenue and Imports - Treasury Depression -Commerce with Australesia.

Since the date of my last letter the question of eding a harbor to the United States has been much discussed, and the advocates of the measure, sugar planters and their factors, feel somewhat dismayed at the prospect of obtaining a treaty of reciprocity, if it depends upon a cession of Hawaiian territory. As I have before advised you, the sentiments of the natives are most hostile to the measure. Memorials and petitions to the King are coming in thick; and fast and very numerously

HOME POLICY AND AMERICAN INTERESTS. The policy of advocating this measure in the in-terest of a few sugar planters, who are much disappointed in the price obtained for their products in San Francisco, is a short-sighted one, and will tend to alienate the regard with which the natives bave always looked upon America and her institu-tions. It seems strange that Americans here can be so reckless of the good name of their native land. The natives always connect the acts of foreigners in some manner with the policy of the country from whence they came. I am satisfied that, from the King to the humblest laborer, Hawaiians dislike the proposed cess and should the United States consider the propos tion it will only tend to weaken her influence in this group. The King consented to interrogate the United States as to the possibility of obtaining a

this group. The King consented to interrogate the United States as to the possibility of obtaining a treaty, based upon such a cession, simply to quiet the importunities of the Chancelior of the Kingdom, who is so deeply into sugar that he has but little comfort in considering the luture.

Those who know the proposed harbor best doubt whether the United States will consider the cossion as any equivalent for a treaty. The authorities in Washington must be well posted at this time as to the leasibility of opening this harbor to navigation. The depth and width of the bar at its mouth, and the possibility of its becoming again filled up, might well lead to a careful consideration of the subject. However, after the construction of the Pacilic Railroad, engineers will not be checked by such an obstacle as this bar presents.

That the sugar planters should become disheartened at their present outlook one can well understand, but why they should have recourse to such an extreme measure, one that will surely fail when presented to the Legislative Assembly, is mard to explain. The sugars we manufacture, since the introduction of vacuum pans and other improved machinery, is of such quality that it comes into direct competition with the sugars of the San Francisco refineries. In other words, our planters beard them in their den, and the consequence is a struggle for the market, and the consequence is a struggle for the market, and the consequence is a struggle tor the planters were to confine themselves more generally to refining grades of sugar the competition of the four refineries would be a pretty certain guarantee of a good market.

Public meetings are being held throughout the planters' demand. It should be understood in Washington that "haste makes waste" in diplomacy as well as in other thaters.

Shipments of sugars to Australia and New Zesland have been quite free during the past three months, but as yet no returns have been received. If prices are well sustained, as to advices last received, there will, no doubt,

ments of darker grades of sugars to those markets.

From present indications we may look for a large crop of sugar for the season of 1sta and 1sta. The rice crop is becoming quite an import an infecture since Chinamen assumed its cultivation.

COMMENCE AND CUSTOMS.

Importations of goods have failen off very considerably for the past fifteen months. Our custom receipts show a falling off in duties of \$25,000 for that term. Our tables of exports show a gradual rise in most articles, and so long as importations can be reasonably checked and exports show a steady gain, we may hope to some day obtain a healthy condition of trade.

TREASURY OUTLOOK.

The public finafices are not in a bad condition, although the public debt has doubled within fifteen fhonths, being now \$237,000. This is owing to the extravagances of the late reign and administration. Government bonds find ready takers, the rate of interest being nine per cent per year, while other securities go begging at twelve per cent. The Finance Minister states that he has refused offers of money, it being offered in excess of needs. Not one dollar's worth of government property has been hypothecated. With this condition of affairs, can the native be honestly told that the time has come when he must seek a foreign alliance?

## THE ASHANTEE WAR.

Fitting Out the Expedition.

The latest English mail supplies accounts of the progress of the expedition against refractory Ashantees. The Lords of the Admiralty have chartered another large vessel, the King Bonny, to convey provisions and other stores to the Gold Coast for the forthcoming expedition, and she will arrive at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, next week, making the fourth ship fitted out at the same place for the expedition. The Adeia, which has nearly complèted her lading, is a long and narrow, but deep and roomy ship of 750 tons burden, and from the large quantity of stores which have been put on board her as well as from her appearance in the water, it is evident that she is already well freighted. She is, however, taking on board 160 tons of coals for her engines, and to-day she must embark 100 tons of gunpowder; but barge loads and embark 100 tons of gunpowder; but barge loads and wagon loads of stores, especially "ship-bread" or biscuit, continue to arrive for conveyance in her, and some of the people-concerned for the safety of the ship are beginning to get anxious. The policy of sending out such a large quantity provisions two months before the troops who are to consume them is also discussed, but it does not appear that any other stores which are likely to be more urgently required have been left behind in consequence. The ship has on board sufficient tarpaulin to cover up the provisions when they are landed, and several shippoads more will have to be sent out before Sir Garnet Woiseley will be satusfied that the army is adequately victualled for the march forward. In

addition to

THE STORES

already enumerated, the Adela yesterday took on
board several tons of preserved potatoes, a quantity of Australian meat, several barrels of sait and
some cases of tea and tobacco. Thirty large hospital marquees have also been embarked, and
numerous cases of tools for engineers, tinmen,
carpenters, coopers and other tradesmen.
There are also cases of signal rockets and
slow-match for the Commodore of the fleeb; but
the bulk of the stores are addressed to "The Semior
Control officer," indicating the uncertainty which
prevails in such a climate as to who may be left in
command. Some additional cases of filters arrived
from London, and were ordered to be put on board
the Adela, even at the risk of displacing something
else; but she will drop down to the powder magazines, after which no general stores will be embarked until the arrival of the next ship. The
hundred axes already mentioned were supplemented vesterday by no less than 1.200 others.

mines, after which no general stores will be charbed until the arrival of the next ship. The hundred axes already mentioned were supplemented yesterday by no less than 1,200 others, proving that the work to be done in cutting through the bush has not been lightly estimated. The opinion gains ground that not only a wide road, huse a new constant of the interior; and recent events have also dispelled the hopes which prevailed that Sir Garnet Wolseley would be able 10 deal with the Ashantees by means of the native troops alone, without calling for the two regiments at home, who are detailed for the expedition. A number of the China barrows in store nave already been converted by the Royal Carriage Department into trucks suitable for this service, and handed over to the Comptroller—Major General H. W. Gordon, C. B.—for shipment. These trucks are filled with books for coupling two or more together, and they seem capable of answering all the requirements of lightness, strength and durability.

ing all the requirements of the distribution of the victor immanuel, 70, serew ship, 3,087 tons, 700 horse power, has been taken into dock at Portagoo horse power, has been taken into dock at Portagoo horse power to be atted for service as a hospital sinp at Cape Coast Castle, and in order that the necessary preparations may be completed as soon as possible, a large number of work acu have been earn on board. A detachment of the Pitteenth regiment has left Haslar for Cape Coast Castle. There was slight insubordination among some of the men, owing to a misunderstanding about their pay. About a dozen or loarteen were placed undergarrest.

## A SHOCKING DEATH.

William Polgrim, eighteen years old, an American, living at No. 156 Rivington street, and employed in the drug mills of the Compton Bros. employed in the drug mins of the Compton Span.

No. 35 Jefferson street, was yesterday evening caught in the beiting of a shaft while in the act of putting it on. He was whirled round and round, this legs, arms, head and neck were crushed by the shaft and horribly mangled. He died in great agony a few hours after the accident. Coraner Hersman was notified to hold an insucat.